

NATIONAL

Union Minister discusses systematic use of fish-farming techniques

PAGE-2

LOCAL NEWS

Independent Enquiry Commission chair, member arrive in Myanmar

PAGE-5

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. V, No. 238, 3rd Waxing of Nattaw 1380 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Monday, 10 December 2018

Our Union Government wishes to reiterate our pledge to cooperate with international organizations to ensure that the articles contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are respected and implemented.

Message of Greetings sent by President U Win Myint
on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary celebrations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
(10 December 2018)

THIS day marks the auspicious occasion of the 70th Anniversary celebrations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. 10th December, the day on which the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was issued has been honored and recognized as UN International "Human Rights Day" and have been customarily celebrated all over the world.

Our Republic of the Union of Myanmar gained her independence on 4th January 1948 and became a member of the United Nations on 19th April. It is on record that on

10th December 1948 when the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Human Rights Declaration which serves as universal principles for humankind, Myanmar was one of first among member states who voted in favor.

Human rights are not those rights which can be gained only when granted through the generosity or goodwill of an individual or organization. They are inalienable rights possessed by all from the time of conception in a mother's womb till the time of death.

SEE PAGE-3



Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe and Kayin State Chief Minister Daw Nan Khin Htwe inspect the tablets to be distributed to staff in Kayin State. PHOTO: MNA

Health staff get mobile tablets for real-time information

A CEREMONY was held to distribute mobile tablets to health staff in Kayin state yesterday. The Union Minister for Health and Sports, Dr. Myint Htwe, said the tablet distri-

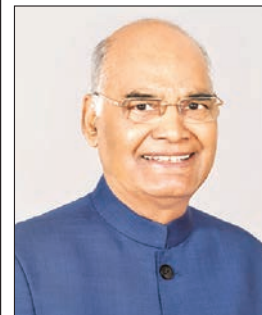
bution program aims to promote public health awareness.

"The tablets will hopefully add to the knowledge of the basic health staff and the township and station medical superinten-

dents," he said.

"The tablets will provide real-time information and data, apart from ensuring greater effectiveness of health undertakings," he said. SEE PAGE-3

Profile of the President of the Republic of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind



SHRI Ram Nath Kovind was born on October 1, 1945, in Paraunkh, near Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh. His parents were Shri Maiku Lal and Smt Kalawati.

Shri Kovind completed his school education in Kanpur and obtained the degrees of B.Com and L.L.B. from Kanpur University. In

SEE PAGE-3

Profile of the Spouse of the Indian President, Smt. Savita Kovind

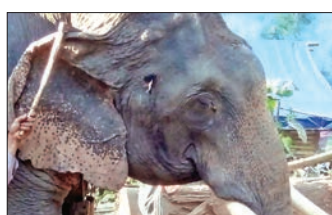


SMT. Kovind was born on 15 April, 1952 in Meerut, a city in the Northern Indian State of Uttar Pradesh. She spent her early years in Delhi where she also received her education.

She is a strong advocate of social justice in nation building. She is actively involved in social work and

SEE PAGE-3

INSIDE TODAY



NATIONAL
Elephant shot in head by poacher in Ohnmone survives

PAGE-4

NATIONAL
Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint inspects Copyrights and Registration Division

PAGE-6



NATIONAL
MR to run Mandalay-Myitkyina express trains starting 29 Dec

PAGE-4

Police sharpshooters get prizes

THE Myanmar Police Force held the 24th Police Chief's Championship Shield Shooting Contest and prize-giving ceremony at the shooting range of the No. 1 Basic Combat Training Unit (Mingon) in Hlegu Township, Yangon Region, at 8 a.m. yesterday.

The Union Minister for Home Affairs, Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, delivered an address and watched the three final events of the contest.

At the prize-giving ceremony, the MPF Chief and his wife, and senior officers and their wives presented awards to the winners of the women's 9 mm pistol contest, women's BA 94 assault rifle contest, men's 9 mm pistol contest, men's BA 94 assault rifle contest, men's BA 64 assault rifle contest, and men's BA 63 assault rifle contest. They also presented the best shooter (men/women) award and team-wise awards. Afterwards, Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe presented the championship shield and awards to the police communication squad team, which won the 24th Police Chief's Championship Shield Shooting Contest.—MNA ■ (Translated by TMT)



Union Minister Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe presents the championship shield to the winners of the 24th Police Chief's Championship Shield Shooting Contest. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister discusses systematic use of fish-farming techniques

THE Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation, Dr. Aung Thu, discussed the progress of freshwater fish-breeding through the use of systematic fish-farming techniques in Mandalay on 8 December.

The Union Minister invited suggestions to resolve the difficulties faced by the fish-farming sector during his meeting with

breeders from Mandalay and Sagaing regions at the Freshwater Fish-farming Research and Development Bureau in the Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay.

At the meeting, breeders put forward their requirements and problems. In response, the Union Minister said, "The ministry is providing the technology for producing marketable fish

and is planning to open a school of fishery science that will be upgraded into a university, to produce experts in the field."

"Officials are making coordinated efforts to stabilize the fish market and ensure a balance between demand and supply. Cooperation of large cooperatives must be enlisted, to serve mutual interests to control the market and acquire advanced storage methods," he added.

Afterwards, the Union Minister toured the facility. Officials explained cooperation with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and research on freshwater fish.

At the Natyaygan fish farm in Amarapura Township, the Union Minister heard a report on the production of fingerlings for local demand. Dr. Aung Thu discussed breeders' requirements for producing high-value fish, establishing model farms for sharing of knowledge, and extended dissemination of techniques.—MNA ■ (Translated by TMT)



Union Minister Dr. Aung Thu inspects fish farming techniques in Mandalay. **PHOTO: MNA**

Prizes presented to winners of photo, postcard contest

PRIZES were presented yesterday to winners of a photo and postcard contest with the theme 'The Heritage We Cherish', held to commemorate the 71st Independence Day in Yangon.

The Union Minister for Information, Dr Pe Myint, gave a speech before handing out the prizes sponsored by the Information and Public Relations Department. Afterwards, he presented the first prize to Zaw Zaw Wai (Hsinbyukyun) for the photo contest and Khin Maung Lwin for the postcard contest.

The Director-General of the IPRD, U Ye Naing, and the Director-General of the Printing and Publishing Department, U Aung Myo Myint, presented the second and third prizes for the contests.

The Secretary of the Yangon City Development Committee, Daw Hlaing Maw Oo, the President of the Myanmar Photography Association, U Kyaw

Kyaw Win, the Chairman of the Myanmar Libraries Foundation, U Maung Maung, the Chairman of the Myanmar Music Association, U Tin Oo Lay, and a member of the panel of judges, U Myint Thein Pe, presented the consolation prizes.

U Kyaw Kyaw Win and the central committee member of the Myanmar Arts and Crafts Association, U Kyi Win, explained the work of the judges in choosing the winning entries.

Zaw Zaw Wai (Hsinbyukyun) gave a word of thanks on behalf of the prize winners.

The Union Minister posed for documentary photos with the prize winners and officials. A total of 280 contestants sent 1,166 photos for the photo contest, and 17 contestants sent 90 entries for the postcard contest. All the entries will be displayed at the community centres of the IPRD.—MNA ■ (Translated by TMT)



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint presents an award to a winner of the photo and postcard contest. **PHOTO: MNA**

Jade carving, jewellery design contest to be held in Mandalay

THE first Mandalay Yatanar Mall International Gems and Finished Jewellery expo will be held in Mandalay from 15 to 19 January.

The expo will be held at the Mandalay Gems Mall on the fourth floor of the Yadanarbon Super Center located at the corner of 78 and 34 streets in Chanayetharsan Township, Mandalay.

The event aims to promote technology and develop the finished jewellery market. It will include a jade carving and fin-

ished jewelry design competition. Winners for the contest will be chosen by expert jade appraisers. Prizes worth more than Ks20 million will be handed out at the contest.

The award-winning jade carving and jewellery designs will be sold through a tender at the event. The first international gems expo will feature about 400 stalls by international and local entrepreneurs who have been invited for the event.—Maung Pyithu (Mandalay) ■ (Translated by Hay Mar)

Message of Greetings sent by President U Win Myint on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary celebrations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

FROM PAGE-1

All humans are born with the fundamental principles of noble existence such as justice, freedom, and equality. Therefore these are inborn rights which all humans have the right to enjoy and which cannot be abolished. They are also rights which may be enjoyed by a person without harming or infringing upon the rights of some other person.

Human rights which are the most fundamental rights of humankind need to be enjoyed without discrimination with respect to race, color of skin, gender, language, religion or political belief by all equally.

There are unique characteristics in human rights. They are namely rights which are Universal, Inalienable, Indivisible, Interrelated, and Interdependent.

Human rights, democracy and rule of law are interrelated. When human rights are violated, democracy and rule of law are impacted. When democracy is violated, human rights and rule of law suffer. When there is no rule of law, democracy and human rights are lost.

Ignoring and disregarding human rights tantamount to destruction of humankind's ability to reason and differentiate cause and effects and between good or evil. That is why we are making strenuous efforts to teach, create awareness and provide training courses on human rights.

Myanmar is now on the path of democratic transition. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw adopted the Human Rights Commission Law on 28 March 2014 and in

accordance with that law the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission was established for the emergence of a society where the rights of citizens stipulated in the Union Constitution and rights stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are given more protection; and also to ensure that human rights stipulated in international human rights conventions are given increased protection with more effectiveness.

When I gave the oath of office as President of the Union on 30 March 2018 in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, I have already stated that "we need to give more protection in cases where human rights have been violated." Furthermore, when I delivered the New Year day message as President on the first day of ME 1380, with regard to human rights I said, "in order to give stepped-up protection against violations of human rights, the Union Government should cooperate with CBO's, CSO's, the Media and the people and that activities would be increased and implemented with heightened momentum. We should strive to ensure that the Human Rights Commission would be able to protect the lawful basic rights of each individual person, the fundamental basic rights of citizens, and the security and freedoms of citizens in the interrogation centres, police lock-ups, court detention rooms, prisons, and prisoner labor camps, regardless of region. I have also met and given instructions to the Human Rights Commission to ensure that the inherent rights of citizens, in other words the basic rights of citizens

are not lost. The organizations which are working on human rights should also ensure that nobody's basic rights and human dignity is trampled upon. Extra effort should be made to ensure that correct action in accordance with the law has been taken." This was what I said in that speech.

In Myanmar, due to the cooperation of the Union Government and the region and state governments with the work being done by the Human Rights Commission to give increased protection for human rights, we can now see that the situation of human rights protection within the country has improved. Our Union Government wishes to reiterate our pledge to cooperate with international organizations to ensure that the articles contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are respected and implemented.

I urge the Union ministries, the state and regional governments, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, state and private media organizations and the people to cooperate with the Human Rights Commission to work for the improvement of the human rights situation in accordance with the motto "stand for human rights" to remind us of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 70th Anniversary celebrations.

I send this Message of Greetings with the fervent hope that with the aforesaid collective strength, human rights will blossom in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar without any distinction between the highlands and lowlands.

Health staff get mobile tablets for real time information

FROM PAGE-1

"We have already provided tablets to 312 township and station doctors and 8,343 basic health staff in Kayah, Mon, and Chin states and Magway and Sagaing regions through funds from the Union budget," he said.

"As people in the villages are prone to diseases because of a lack of health knowledge, rural areas are included in the priority list of the tablet distribution program," he said.

The ceremony held in Hpa-an, the capital of Kayin State, was also addressed by Daw Nan Khin Htwe Myint, the Kayin State's Chief Minister, who hailed the program as a beneficial drive.

"There are untimely deaths, especially in rural areas because of their remoteness and the technical gap," she said, and thanked the government for the program, which

aims to provide real-time information on treatment and medicines for both rural and urban areas.

Afterwards, Daw Aye Aye Sein, the Deputy Director-General of the Public Health Department, spoke about the usefulness of the tablets.

The Union Minister, the Chief Minister, the speaker of the Kayin State Hluttaw, Dr. San Shwe Win, the Chair of the Pyithu Hluttaw's Health and Sports Development Committee, the social affairs minister of Kayin State, U Min Ko Khaing, the representative of the state Hluttaw, and Dr. Tha Tun Kyaw, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Sports, presented mobile tablets to 857 basic health staff and 37 township and station health superintendents at the ceremony.—Nay Myo Lwin (IPRD) Nay Myo Lwin (IPRD)

Profile of the President of the Republic of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind

FROM PAGE-1

1971, he enrolled as an Advocate with the Bar Council of Delhi. Shri Kovind was Union Government Advocate in the Delhi High Court from 1977 to 1979 and Union Government Standing Counsel in the Supreme Court from 1980 to 1993. He became Advocate-on-Record of the Supreme Court of India in 1978. He practised at the Delhi High Court and Supreme Court for 16 years till 1993.

Shri Kovind was elected as a member of the Rajya Sabha from Uttar Pradesh in April 1994. He served for two consecutive terms of six years each till March 2006. Shri Kovind served on various Parliamentary Committees like Parliamentary Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes/Tribes; Parliamentary Committee on Home Affairs; Parliamentary Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas; Parliamentary Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment; and Parliamentary Committee on Law and Justice.

He was Chairman of the Rajya Sabha House Committee.

Shri Kovind also served as Member of the Board of Management of the Dr B.R Ambedkar University, Lucknow, and Member of the Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata.

Before assuming charge of the office of the 14th President of India on July 25, 2017, Shri Kovind served as the 36th Governor of the state of Bihar from August 16, 2015, to June 20, 2017.

He is a lawyer, veteran political representative and long-time advocate of egalitarianism and integrity in Indian public life and society.

Shri Kovind married Smt Savita Kovind on May 30, 1974. They have a son, Shri Prashant Kumar, and a daughter, Miss Swati. An avid reader, the President has keen interest in reading books on politics and social change, law and history, and religion.

Profile of the Spouse of the Indian President, Smt. Savita Kovind

FROM PAGE-1

welfare activities for the poor and needy. As the spouse of the Governor of Bihar, she headed a women organization- Mahila Imdad Committee. Under her guidance, the organization undertook several empowerment and upliftment activities focused on the most vulnerable.

She is committed to Indian values and has done her best to impart them to her children and grandchildren. She believes that the Indian family structure and ethos play an important part in Indian life and that these must be pre-

served and nurtured even as India and Indian people make adjustments to living in a rapidly changing world.

Smt. Kovind speaks Hindi and Punjabi fluently and is conversant with several North Indian dialects.

She displays deep reverence and concern for nature. These sensibilities lend her to indulge in gardening during leisure time. She is passionate about food and enjoys cooking different dishes. She is deeply religious.

She is blessed with a son and daughter.

management@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

သတင်းစာ၊ ဂျာနယ်စာစောင်များ အား နိုင်ငံတော်အဆင့်ရှိ

ပုံနှိပ်စက်ဖြင့် ပုံနှိပ်လေ့ရှိသည်။

Newspapers & Journal Printing Service. 09-254435478

Contact:

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

DEPUTY CHIEF EDITORAye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT**

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORSZaw Min
Zaw Htet Oo
Win Ko Ko Aung**INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR**Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**LOCAL NEWS EDITORS**Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com**TRANSLATORS**Khaing Thanda Lwin,
Hay Mar Tin Win,
Ei Myat Mon
Kyaw Zin Lin
Kyaw Zin Tun**REPORTER**May Thet Hnin,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
mayreporter.mm@gmail.com
Nyein Nyein Ei,**PHOTOGRAPHER**

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAMTun Zaw, Thein Ngwe,
Zaw Zaw Aung, Ye Naing Soe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Thein Htwe**EDITORIAL SECTION**(+95) (01) 8604529,
Fax – (+95) (01) 8604305**CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION**San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114**ADVERTISING & MARKETING**(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.gnlmdaily@gmail.com
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
www.facebook.com/TheGNLM

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Write for usWe appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

MR to run Mandalay-Myitkyina express trains starting 29 Dec



Mandalay-Myitkyina express train seen at Carriage and Wagon Workshop in Myitnge Township.

PHOTO: KHINE HSAT WAI

THE Myanmar Railways (MR) under the Transport and Communications Ministry said it will run express trains on the Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad section from the end December. The first train will leave the

Mandalay station at 1 p.m on 29 December.

New express train coaches have been built at the Carriage and Wagon Workshop in Myitnge, a town in Amarapura Township, Mandalay Region.

The coaches will be handed over to the MR at a ceremony on 28 December.

"The new coaches are more comfortable than their predecessors. The MR will replace train No. 33/34, which previously

operated on the route and was stopped, with the express trains to reduce travel time. Regular trains usually take 19 hours to complete the route," said U Sanda Aung, the Deputy General Manager (operating) of the MR (Mandalay). The express trains will offer the same level of comfort and safety as the trains operating on the Yangon-Mandalay route, he said, adding that the MR is making continuous efforts to provide better services to passengers.

At present, the MR is operating train Nos. 55/56 and 57/58 on the Mandalay-Myitkyina route. The express trains will run the same route and stop at only five railway stations.

An express train includes ten ordinary coaches and one upper coach. Tickets are priced at K 10,000 for ordinary class passengers and K 20,000 for upper class passengers.—Khine Hsat Wai ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Elephant shot in head by poacher in Ohnmone survives

A TIMBER elephant survived after being shot in the head by a poacher in the Ohnmone elephant camp of the Madaya Forest Reserve, according to the Myanmar Timber Enterprise.

"The male elephant, named Moe Maung Kyan, 33, measures 7 feet and six inches. Its tusks measure 2 feet. Its trainer, Mahout Ko Kyaw Kyaw Naing, released it into the forest for grazing on 6 December. When the trainer returned, he found the elephant about four miles to the north of the Ohnmone elephant camp with a bullet wound in the head," said U Tun Win Oo, the General Manager of the Myanmar Timber Enterprise.

A poacher had reportedly shot the elephant using an improvised firearm.

The elephant, which had a 9-inch deep wound on the head, was brought back to the



The timber elephant survived after being shot in the head by a poacher in the Ohnmone elephant camp of the Madaya Forest Reserve.

PHOTO: MIN ZAW OO (IPRD)

camp and treated by Vet Dr. Myo Myint serving in Pyin Oo Lwin District, Myanmar Timber Enterprise.

The Myanmar Timber Enterprise has lodged a case at the Letpanhla police station under

Section 41 (a) of the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Law.

The police are continuing their investigations to apprehend the poacher. —Min Zaw Oo (IPRD) ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Roadside fuel shops catch fire in Mrauk U

Fuel shops on the Yangon-Sittway road near the Taung Phyu bridge in MraukU Township, Rakhine State, were damaged in a fire on Saturday. One person was injured in the incident.

According to investigators, the fire was caused due to the negligence of a fuel shop employee, identified as Htay Win,

18, from Minbya Township. He reportedly threw a ratio-rite oil measuring cup on the ground after pouring fuel, which sparked the fire.

In spite of attempts to contain it, the blaze quickly spread to nine neighbouring shops. A team of 100 firemen and 10 fire engines put out the fire with help

from local residents. The loss of property on account of the fire is estimated to be about K18.45 million. One fuel shop employee, identified as Htay Win, was injured in the accident and was taken to the MraukU general hospital for treatment.—District IPRD ■ (Translated by Hay Mar)

Python captured in Kyaunggon Township

A farmer captured a python measuring about seven feet in length and eight inches in girth at a paddy plantation in Kyaunggon Township, Patheingyi District, Ayeyawady Region, on Saturday evening. Ko Chit Naing, a farmer in Wetsu Village, Wetchaung Village-tract, found the python, a non-venomous species of snake, while working in a paddy field in his village. He handed over the python to U Soe Thane from the Kyaunggon Township Forest Department on Sunday.

The python, weighing 5.2 viss (a viss = 5.6 lbs), is currently under care of the Kyaunggon Township Forest Department and will be handed over to the Yekyi Township Forest Department.—Win Kyaing ■ (Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

A python captured in Kyaunggon Township. **PHOTO: WIN KYAING**

Independent Enquiry Commission chair, member arrive in Myanmar

Ambassador Rosario Manalo, Chairperson of the Independent Commission of Enquiry, and Commission Member, Ambassador Kenzo Oshima, arrived in Myanmar by air yesterday at 5.55 p.m. and 4.30 p.m., respectively.

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar established the Independent Commission of Enquiry as part of its national initiative to address the reconciliation, peace, stability, and development in Rakhine.

Ambassador Rosario Manalo is the former Deputy Foreign Minister of the Philippines and former Chair and current Representative of the Philippines to CEDAW. Ambassador Kenzo Oshima is the former Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Emergency Relief Coordinator, and former Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations.

The chair and the member of the commission were welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by U Zaw Phyo Win, the Deputy Director-General of the Strategic Studies and Training Department, U Zaw Tun Oo, the Deputy Director-General of the Protocol Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other officials.—MNA ■



Ambassador Rosario Manalo, Chairperson of the Independent Commission of Enquiry (Second from Right), is welcomed by officials at the Yangon International Airport . **PHOTO: KHINE SAT WAI**

Mandalay to implement 15 river bank erosion control, 4 waterway maintenance projects

A TOTAL of 19 projects will be implemented in Mandalay in the fiscal year 2018-2019. Of these, 15 projects will be undertaken to prevent river bank erosion, while the remaining four projects will focus on maintaining waterways.

“Waterway maintenance work will be conducted using Union funds, while measures to prevent river bank erosion will be undertaken with the Regional government’s funds. Seven projects will be carried out by the department concerned, while the remaining eight projects will be implemented through tenders. We have invited tenders for the projects and the tenders have to be submitted



River bank erosion threatens habitations in townships along the river in Mandalay Region. **PHOTO: KHINE SAT WAI**

by 28 December,” said U Toe Aung Lin, the regional director of the Region’s Water Resources Utilization Department.

“From the regional government’s budget, K5,000 million has been allotted for the 15 river bank erosion control projects,

which will be implemented in Madaya, Amarapura, Ngazun, Myingyan, Tada U, Singu, and Patheingyi townships. From the Union government’s budget, K620 million has been allotted for the four waterways projects, which will be implemented at the Singu, Madaya, Myingyan, and Katha jetties,” he said.

“The projects to control river bank erosion will involve changing the waterway and dredging in the region to prevent landslides, which were caused by the change in the course of the Ayeyawady River, on the Dohthawady riverside and the Ayeyawady riverside. Dredging will be carried out in Sithae village. Waterway maintenance

will be undertaken, and dams will be constructed. All the projects will be implemented till mid May,” he added.

“Most river bank erosions are caused by humans, who fell trees and do gold prospecting. The river bank erosion prevention project will cost a lot. Trees are being planted, beginning October, in villages near the riverbanks in cooperation with the forest department.

In the last fiscal year, with the use of funds from both the regional government and the Union government, the department spent just over K7 billion on 22 projects,” he said.— Khine Sat Wai ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

Decline in Muse exports drags down Sino-Myanmar trade value in current FY

THE value of Sino-Myanmar border trade plunged sharply in the first two months of the current fiscal year due to a drastic drop in exports through the Muse gate, which usually sees the largest trade among the border points, according to data released by the Commerce Ministry.

The decline in trade at the Muse gate has been attributed to China’s trade suspension on some agro products since the second week of October. About 75 per cent of the trade between China and Myanmar is conducted through Muse. It also handles the majority of the country’s rice exports.

China has set import quotas on some agro products, including rice, this year. Tax is exorbitantly high for merchants once the import volume exceeds the quota limit, resulting in illegal flow of rice into China. Therefore, China has been confiscating

rice brought in illegally in the border areas.

In the last two months, the Muse gate registered exports worth US\$400.9 million and imports worth \$248.2 million, totalling \$649 million. During the same period last year, the total trade through the gate stood at \$957.38 million. In the current fiscal year, Myanmar’s border trade with China stood at \$779.7 million, decreasing sharply from \$1 billion during the same period last year, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar exports rice, various varieties of peas, sesame seeds, corn, fruits, and vegetables, dried tea leaves, fishery products, rubber, minerals, and animal products to China. It imports machinery, plastic raw materials, consumer products, and electronic tools.—Ko Khant ■
(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Maritime trade up 5.7% in current fiscal year

MYANMAR’S external trade via sea exceeded US\$4 billion in the first two months of the fiscal year 2018-2019, an increase of \$219 million, or 5.7 per cent, from the same period last year, according to data released by the Commerce Ministry.

From 1 October to 30 November, the country’s total maritime exports totalled \$1.435 billion and imports stood at \$1.275 billion. During the same period last year, the total value of trade through shipping totalled \$3.848 billion, with exports worth \$1.275 billion and imports worth \$2.5 billion. The country’s maritime trade topped \$11.7 billion during the mini-budget period from April to September this year, an increase of over \$2 billion compared with the same period last year. Over the first 61 days of this FY, Myanmar’s total international trade exceeded \$5.5 billion,

with border trade amounting to \$1.438 billion, an increase of \$133 million from the same period last year.

Around 80 per cent of the country’s total trade is conducted by sea. Myanmar mainly exports agricultural products, livestock, fishery products, forest products, minerals, manufactured goods, and other miscellaneous products. The country usually imports capital goods, consumer goods, intermediate products, and CMP. According to the ministry’s yearly statistical report, the country’s maritime trade totalled \$25.019 billion in the 2018-2019 FY, \$21.43 billion in the 2016-2017 FY, \$20.56 billion in the 2015-2016 FY, \$22.37 billion in the 2014-2015 FY, \$20.37 billion in the 2013-2014 FY, and \$14.67 billion in the 2012-2013 FY.—Khine Khant ■
(Translated by Khaing Thanda Lwin)

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint inspects Copyrights and Registration Division

THE Union Minister for Information, Dr. Pe Myint, met with staff of the Copyrights and Registration Division of the Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD) on Win Gabar Street, Bahan Township, yesterday.

During the meeting, IPRD Director-General U Ye Naing reported on the organizational set-up and functions of the division and Director of the Copyrights and Registration Division, Daw Yu Yu Win, reported on the issuance of licenses to printing and publishing services and news agencies and registration services, current functions related with the publishing in the ethnic languages, functions related to religious affairs, the situation on drafting law for related works with the CRD, and the preparation for running the services

once the Literature and Art Copyrights Law is enacted.

Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint urged the officials to raise public awareness about the progress of the news and publishing sectors in Myanmar.

He also called for settling disputes related with literary property rights in accordance with the law, and the division being in readiness ahead of the enactment of the copyrights law for literature and art.

Afterwards, U Maung Hein of Megalink Advanced Technology Co. Ltd. reported on upgrading the application and web portal of Myanmar Digital News, which is a joint venture online media between the News and Periodicals Enterprise of the MOI and Megalink Advanced Technology Co. Ltd.—MNA ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)



Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Ye Naing reports on the organizational set-up and functions of the Copyrights and Registration Division to Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint.

PHOTO: MNA

Statement by Myanmar National Human Rights Commission to mark the 70th Anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights which falls on 10 December 2018 Statement No (11 / 2018)

1. Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, along with the international community celebrates the auspicious occasion of the 70th Anniversary of the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which falls on 10 December 2018.
2. This auspicious day commemorates not only the International Human Rights Day but also the 70th Anniversary of the proclamation of Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the United Nations General Assembly. On such occasion it is most appropriate to present the activities of promotion and protection of human rights carried out by the Commission during 2018 to the general public.
3. The Commission has been extensively carrying out promotion and awareness raising activities to make the public aware of the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the impacts of these rights on the public in their daily lives. For broader dissemination of UDHR it has been translated into Myanmar language and (12) other ethnic languages. Human rights talks have also been conducted at (23) townships in the States and Regions. In addition, with the purpose of disseminating human rights education not only to the urban but also to the rural public round-table talks were held at (12) villages in Ayeyarwaddy and Yangon Regions. To foster incorporation of human rights standards in carrying out their duties and functions by district level government officials MNHRC held three types of awareness raising activities in Yangon, Taungoo, Meiktila, Pyin Oo Lwin, Kawthaung and Pakokudistricts with the cooperation of CSO groups. The three types being, human rights workshops, trainings for township level child rights committee members and a one-day training course for CSOs. Likewise, lectures

on human rights were given in the training courses conducted at the National Defence University, the Staff College, Military Training Centres and Police Training Centre (Mandalay). Lectures were also given in trainings conducted at the Central Institute of Civil Service (Lower Myanmar and Upper Myanmar).

4. The Commission handled complaints on human rights violations in accordance with procedures of the MNHRC Law. From January to November 2018 the Commission received 2818 complaints out of which action was taken on 966 cases which met the requirements of complaint mechanism. Field visits were conducted on 11 occasions. In addition, the Commission undertook inspection visits to 25 prisons, 22 labour camps, 32 police lock-ups, 32 court lock-ups, 15 hospital guard-wards and 5 homes for the aged poor. The findings together with the recommendations were forwarded to the departments concerned and statements were issued for the general public. The Commission visited Buthidaung and Maungdaw townships in Northern Rakhine State to look into the human rights situations there and also visited refugee camps in Putao, Myitkyina, Moehnyin, Moegaung townships in Kachin State. Findings of the visits were reported to the President's Office.
5. The Commission teams led by the Commissioners monitored the by-elections in six constituencies held on 3 November 2018 and issued a statement. A detailed report of the findings together with the recommendations was forwarded to the President's Office and the Union Election Commission.
6. With regards to legal matters, the Commission undertook studies of the existing Laws and Bills from the human rights point of view and recommendations were forwarded to the relevant institutions.

The recommendations on the 2nd revised draft Bill of the Penal Code was submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in 2018.

7. The Commission, in its cooperation with the regional and international human rights mechanisms, participated in the South East Asia National Human Rights Institutions Forum (SEANF), Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF) and the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI).
8. In order to recommend the government departments to fulfill the obligations accepted by Myanmar during the second cycle of UPR on Myanmar, the Commission organized a workshop in cooperation with one INGO. A workshop on "Business and Human Rights" was organized in cooperation with UNDP and the outcomes together with the recommendations were submitted to the President's Office.
9. As Myanmar is a State Party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the Commission liaised with the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) to hold an awareness raising forum on the submission of Myanmar's national report.
10. With the purpose of enhancing the capacity of the Commission in carrying out the promotion and protection activities, the Commission in collaboration with UNDP, OHCHR and APF undertook a Capacity Assessment of the Commission.
11. Myanmar National Human Rights Commission pledges to promote and protect the human rights of the citizens in accordance with the provisions of the Commission Law.

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission
Date: 10 December 2018

World in state of transformation, Russia needs to keep up — Putin

MOSCOW — The world is a state of transformation and Russia should do its best not to lag behind, Russian President Vladimir Putin said at a congress of the United Russia party on Saturday.

“The world on the whole is in a state of transformation. It is a very powerful and dynamically evolving transformation. Given we fail to find a way around in due time, given we fail to grasp in due time what and how we need to act, we might always end up

in lagging behind,” the Russian president said.

“It is a very dramatic situation in the history of our country. This dramatic situation is unfolding across the world as well as in our fate,” he noted.

The United Russia party should employ its legislative and administrative potential and its human resources to unite and consolidate the citizens and to find solutions to nationwide problems, Putin concluded.—Tass ■



Russian President Vladimir Putin. PHOTO: TASS

Italy's Salvini hails six months in power with Rome rally

ROME (Italy)— Italy's far-right Interior Minister Matteo Salvini spoke to thousands of supporters in a packed square in Rome on Sunday as his surging League party celebrates six months in power.

Organizers said around 80,000 people attended—many travelling from around the country—waving flags and banners with slogans such as “Italians first”, “Italy raises its head” and “Six months of common sense government”.

The 45-year-old Salvini, who is also deputy prime minister, referenced the “yellow vest” protests rocking neighbouring France.

“Those who sow poverty reap protests, those who sow false promises reap the response of those on the margins and the countryside,” he told the cheering crowd.

Salvini also lashed out at the European Union, which is in a stand-off with his government over Rome's anti-austerity budget that has been rejected by

Brussels because it sharply increases spending and the deficit.

“We are afraid of nothing and nobody,” Salvini said of the dispute.

Taxi driver Stefano Feliziani, 63, who was wearing a yellow vest in the crowd, said he was a “Salvinian” who stands with those fighting against the “usurocracy, the government of banks, the single mindset of globalisation”.

Salvini's League has surged in popularity since taking power in a coalition government earlier this year, with opinion polls putting the party on 30 percent, up from the 17 percent it won in March elections.

Gabriele Accornero, a 49-year-old online marketing specialist from the northwestern town of Avigliana, said the anti-migrant Salvini had “managed to stop illegal immigration, he is the first who kept this promise”.

“It's not racism, it's just that we could not end of up with all of those delinquents,” she said.—AFP ■

Pushed out, but Soros foundation won't give up on Hungary

BERLIN (Germany) — The foundation started by US billionaire George Soros may have been forced to leave Budapest after the Hungarian government's relentless campaigning, but it is vowing not to give up on its work there.

Despite being hounded out of the country where its first office opened in 1984, Open Society Foundations said it has not failed in its mission.

“I'd say that our mission is really tested and challenged, but we're not about giving up,” said Goran Buldioski, who heads the foundation's new regional hub in Berlin.

“What we have done is that we've moved our hub office but our work in Hungary has not decreased,” he said, adding that “mentally and programme-wise, we didn't move”.

What has changed drastically for Buldioski and his team is their working and living environment.

Over the last year, employ-

ees at the foundation and the Soros-founded Central European University have faced unprecedented pressure from Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, who himself once received a Soros scholarship to study at Oxford.

Accusing the Budapest-born Soros of orchestrating huge flows of migrants to Europe, Orban branded as “mercenaries” 2,000 people he said worked for the philanthropist.

“It became not comfortable for some people to tell schools or kindergartens where they work because they were afraid in light of the public campaign, bashing and stigmatising that they would be attacked,” said Buldioski.

‘New attack every day’

“There were days we felt like it was Groundhog Day,” the bespectacled Macedonian said, referring to the Hollywood comedy in which the lead character keeps reliving the same day.

“Because we were at-

tacked baselessly... And each day brought a new attack, a new campaign. It was mainly for political reasons.”

The foundation also began questioning if confidential data it was holding on its partners, including contact or bank account details, were safe in Hungary.

“If you don't trust the system and the democracy, or the eroding democracy in which you operate, you start thinking ‘I'm also responsible towards our partners. I don't want to leave their data in a place where we can't secure its integrity’,” said Buldioski.

In May, the foundation, which has a global annual budget of just over a billion dollars and which funds groups working on human rights, justice and democracy, finally decided to close operations in Hungary and relocate to Germany.

In response, the Hungarian government said it “won't be shedding any crocodile tears” over the move.—AFP ■

Thousands rally against Italy-France high speed train link

TURIN (Italy)— Tens of thousands rallied Saturday in Turin to protest against a high speed train project to the French city of Lyon, fiercely opposed by environmentalists, as a waste of public funds.

The scheme involves construction of a 57.5 kilometre (35.7 mile) tunnel across the French

and Italian Alps to cut travel time to two hours from the current four hours.

The cost is estimated at \$8.6 billion (7.5 billion euros) with the bill split 40 percent, 35 percent and 25 percent between the European Union, Italy and France.

The organisers claimed “a

sea of some 70,000 people” had attended the rally but police did not give any estimate of numbers.

The demonstrators held placards saying “No TAV”, or “No high speed train”, “We are against waste” and “Yes to protecting the territory and the environment”.

“There are more important things to invest in such as hospitals, schools and roads,” said Maurizio Alfero, 60, adding that he had to wait until next September for a hospital appointment because it was vastly overstretched.

“It's sufficient to use the existing (train) line which is un-

derused,” he said.

On November 10, up to 40,000 people backing the project rallied in Turin.

The Italian government itself is divided on the issue: the far-right League of Interior Minister Matteo Salvini backs the project but the Five Star Movement opposes it.—AFP ■

India and Myanmar's close, harmonious relationship

MYANMAR shares a good relationship with India, as with the neighboring countries of China, Thailand, Laos, and Bangladesh.

India and China are both geographically and demographically large countries, and Myanmar being situated between the two has employed strategic tactics in maintaining relations with them throughout history.

We have a mutually influential relationship with India based on a shared history of Buddhism and culture. Both countries also have a deep political affinity as both revolted against the British colonists for independence. Both suffered oppression and disenfranchisement at the hands of colonialism and this has enabled them to understand one another better. We can see that our political bond is unique.

Under the British colonists, Myanmar was treated as an extended territory of India. Under the Fascist rule, India's national leader Subhas Chandra Bose made a landmark historical stand by Myanmar's side.

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi also made a significant statement when he said Myanmar played a pivotal role in India's fight for freedom.

People-to-people relations are an integral part of international relations. Both people's mutual desire for prosperity and development are crucial for strengthening bilateral relations.

When Bogoyko Aung San went to England to finalize Myanmar's last battle in the form of the Aung San-Atlee Treaty, his meeting with Indian leader Jawaharlal Nehru also proved to be historical.

Indira Gandhi visited Myanmar twice during her first term, once in 1968 and then in 1969, and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's visit in 1987 truly showcased both countries' deep affinity towards each other.

Since Myanmar's pre-independence era, India has strengthened its relations with Myanmar with its many leaders conducting state visits, including national leaders Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, Manmohan Singh, and Narendra Modi.

India has also been a very good friend to Myanmar, showing considerable support for Myanmar's democratic journey, which is more recent than India's long-running one. It has extended a helping hand more than once when Myanmar was facing issues.

People-to-people relations are an integral part of international relations. Both people's mutual desire for prosperity and development are crucial for strengthening bilateral relations.

Myanmar and India have a healthy border trade, with India being the eleventh largest investor in our country.

With historical relations between the leaders and the people, and continued respect and affinity towards each other, we believe both countries will have greater things to look forward to in the future.

Roundtable Discussions on ways and means for the economic development of the nation

By Zaw Gyi
PHOTO PHAY ZAW

“IF and when the total combined amount of cash receipt from the export trade and foreign exchange being received from other sectors is more and in surplus than the amount being given out as payment, then our nation's currency could be termed as solid and sound”: Managing Director U Than Htaik Lwin.

MRTV aired a live program on talks under the theme “On ways and means for the economic development of the nation” in which officials of Custom Department under the Ministry of Planning and Finance and the business people from private sector have participated.

The panelists are U Kyaw Htin, Director-General of the Custom Department; U Thein Swe, Deputy Director-General of the Custom Department; Daw Khaing Khaing Nwe, Joint General Secretary of UMFCCI; Dr. Aung Zaw, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Pharmaceutical and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association; U Aye Han, Managing Director of United Paints Group of Co., Ltd; U Than Htaik Lwin, Managing Director of Proven Group of Co., participated in the talks. They touched the topics such as the tasks and performances of the Custom Department for the economic development of the nation; types of taxes and revenues; income tax levied during one year period; the involvement of the custom department in the ASEAN Economic Community; the smooth functioning of trade; the containment of illegal trade; the development plan of SMEs; the difficulties in connection with import substitutes and relevant advice; and the tasks of the Myanmar Pharmaceutical and Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association.

(Continued from Yesterday)
Coordinator: We would like to hear from U Than Htaik Lwin as a person from the business sector.
U Than Htaik Lwin: I am working in the battery manufacturing plant that starts producing the battery plates for motor vehicles and motor bikes in the brand names of TOYO Battery and LION Battery since 1996. Moreover, I have expanded my business in reprocessing lead metal



Daw Khaing Khaing Nwe



Dr. Aung Zaw



U Aye Han



U Than Htaik Lwin

from old batteries and producing plastic items with the work force of (1000) people. Our company has been exporting batteries and ready-to-use clean plates and lead metals to foreign countries.

Coordinator: U Aye Han, as a person working in the field of production, may kindly share your view in a topic, please.

U Aye Han: In this talk, I would like to discuss about SMEs development and import substitute theme. In a country where development and technical knowhow are being left behind, the investment from the local national investors of the country and the investment from the foreigners must be in harmony for the smooth functioning of the nation's economy.

It is necessary to invite the foreign investors, while encouraging the incumbent local business people in shortest possible time with a view to enhancing the Gross National Product. For the economic development of the country with the successes in the economic sphere, it is vital that the Government is necessary to support and encourage the private sector. Our country is mainly depending on the foreign products for trade and local distribution. Moreover, the consumers are customarily and consistently content in using foreign products. Therefore, our local industry must enhance production, improve import substitution, and perk up export promotion to develop the local economic status. In doing this, I am of the view that more job opportunity could be created and sustainable income would be secured.

Coordinator: We would like to hear your views on the production difficulties. Dr. Aung Zaw may kindly take the turn first.
Dr. Aung Zaw: In our local phar-

maceutical production sector, we have two relevant parts of difficulties. The first first is on the tax applicable to imported raw pharmaceutical agents and laboratory chemical reagents which we have to pay as custom duty from three to five per cent. While we have to pay these amounts to the government, some of the ready to use pharmaceutical imported from abroad have been exempted from paying taxes. Some of the imported pharmaceuticals have been charged only (1.5) per cent, resulting considerable difficulties to compete in the medicine market.

When compared to the international norms, many countries in the world encourage the local pharmaceutical production by exempting the tax over the raw material imports, while imposing more tax on the import of foreign pharmaceutical products that are similar to the local products.

Therefore, I think that the tariff over the import of raw materials for pharmaceutical use must be lowered, and that the import of foreign pharmaceutical products must be imposed heavy taxes.

The other difficulty is on the inadequate policy over control of pharmaceutical import. I am of the view that there is lack of directive in giving priority to buy and distributed local drugs. In other countries, when the tender of price for drugs are being floated, the equal offer of price or preference margin may exist, but whatever it may be, the local pharmaceutical are being given priority.

The foreign pharmaceutical must be contained or reduced the amount of import if the drugs under referral is same to the pharmaceutical being produced in the country. The relevant permits for drugs similar to local pharmaceu-

tical should be revoked. These are the hurdles encountered.

Coordinator: U Than Htaik Lwin. May kindly discuss with regards to the government sector.

U Than Htaik Lwin: Industrial sector development is vital for the creation of job opportunities. If and when the total combined amount of cash receipt from the export trade and foreign exchange being received from other sectors is more and in surplus than the amount being given out as payment, then our nation's currency could be termed as solid and sound.

In the developed countries, the tax levied over the finished products is greater than the tariff imposed over the raw material. Therefore, tariff levied over finished products and raw materials must be different in nature.

The non-tariff barriers must also be attached in various sectors. In foreign countries, the import items are being attached with standard norms and specification for getting import condition. Similarly, Myanmar should hook up standards and norms for different areas.

Moreover, the necessary laboratories must be established in collaboration and cooperation between the ministry and the relevant associations. Such reform must be applied at the business gates at the border areas.

We are forging ahead for a multi-faceted development. This is a time that we are elevating the competition with the zero per cent over the import of finished products, and as a result, the investors preferred the method of doing business for imported items with lesser risk rather than regular investment.

Many countries in the world including the top notch economic nations encourage sustainable

and long term investment by offering special tax rates and special taxation to the investors. If compared to other countries, our country imposed tariff at very low rate. Therefore, we must impose national tariff on finished products imported from foreign countries.

It is necessary to impose more regulations on imported items such as that of reference markers on the product packaging; regulating seasonal import volume; fixation of value on the lesser imported items; attaching separate tax on the import that are meant to use as quota benefit; special tax levied on the items being extra in volume for the use of quota advantage; the special purchase of the government on some specific items from the SMEs sector; the adoption of anti-dumping policy, and countervailing (having an equal but opposite effect) duty policy.

Moderator: U Aye Han may kindly express your view.

U Aye Han: I would like to discuss on the competition with regards to the finished import goods.

The people working in import substitution sector have been experiencing various difficulties in their efforts to get market access in the country for the products that they have created. They are not in a position to counter to the countries in the region. They are standing in defiance to counter various finished products imported into the country. The imported items are digging more and more access in the local market.

The consumers in the country mostly preferred the foreign products resulting with the failed and futile situation of “Made in Myanmar” products. I am of the view that all necessary initiatives with regards to the protection of the business people who are

working on import substitutes must be applied.

Moderator: We would like to hear from the aspect of UMFCCI.

Daw Khaing Khaing Nwe: I understand that U Aye Han have discussed on the theme “Made in Myanmar”. We have (76) affiliated associations. We have work allocation venues of workman paid by the job done or pieceworkers on piecework at the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association and the Myanmar Industries Association. The State is also providing opportunities for creating jobs. The term “Made in Myanmar” is to be proud of.

We would like to switch from piecework system to value added production system and that the government is encouraging the trend. We must try to achieve that status. From the system of CMP, we have to move to FOB, and it involved tariff to consider. Suppose it is meant to re-export, there is no tax to be levied. However, if we go for FOB, tax is to be paid first. Then the production is in the process, and then it is to be followed with export, where tax redemption is awarded. If possible, the whole lengthy process should be reviewed and made them into easier ways and means.

We have CMP system in garment industry, footwear industry and artificial hair industry which create over (600,000) job opportunities with (3) billion US dollars. Unfortunately, the cash is not ours, but only (10) per cent belongs to us as income. If we could switch into FOB system, we could make this (3) billion US dollar into our own.

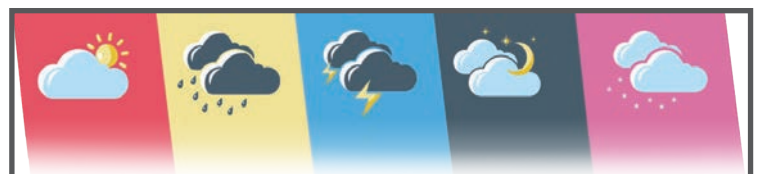
At the moment, we are trying to switch from CMP system into FOB system. As the DG has already mentioned the matters on dry port and the bonded warehouse, it would be very much beneficial and advantage to the country, and therefore, they are to be implemented at the soonest.

When we get into FOB system, it is needed to be facilitated to have the re-export task without tax, and that necessary approval is required. Moreover, I would like to suggest finding ways and means to make the clearance faster without delay at the wharf is to be realized without fail.

Translated by UMT (Ahlon)

U Soe Lynn Han concurrently accredited as Ambassador of Myanmar to the Republic of Croatia

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Soe Lynn Han, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Belgium, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Croatia. —MNA



Myanmar Daily Weather Report (Issued at 7:00 pm Sunday 9th December, 2018)

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is generally fair over the North Bay and partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 10th December, 2018: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, (Southern and Eastern) Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters. Wave height will be about (4-6) feet in off and along Myanmar Coasts.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuations of rain or thundershowers in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Regions, Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10th December, 2018: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10th December, 2018: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 10th December, 2018: Likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (60%).

Invitation to young writers for Sunday Special

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their work to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, in person, or by email to ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Own name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.). — Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar



The report projects the share of natural gas in the global energy balance to increase from 22% to 26% by 2040.—TASS ■

Global demand for gas to grow by 46% by 2040 — Global Gas Outlook

VIENNA—The Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) forecasts global demand for gas to increase by 46% to 5.43 trillion cubic meters by 2040, according to the Global Gas Outlook 2040 issued by GECF on 7 December.

“Global demand for natural gas will grow by 46%—from 3.7 trillion cubic meters in 2017 to 5.43 trillion cubic metres in 2040,” the document said. Generating electricity and the industrial sector will contribute the most to the growing demand. The share of natural gas in the global energy balance will increase from 22% to 26% by

2040. “Total production growth is expected at 1.7% annually until 2040. The United States, Russia, China and Iran will be the main contributors,” the report said.

Natural gas production in GECF countries is projected to increase by one-third, reaching around 2 trillion cubic meters by 2040. The GECF also forecasts oil prices to remain above \$60 per barrel at least until 2040. According to the report, oil prices are projected to decline and hit \$61 per barrel by 2022, resuming growth after that.

In 2030 oil prices will reach

\$70 per barrel and remain around this level until at least 2040.

The GECF is an inter-governmental organization that brings together world’s leading natural gas producers. GECF members include Algeria, Bolivia, Venezuela, Egypt, Iran, Qatar, Libya, Nigeria, the United Arab Emirates, Russia, Trinidad and Tobago, Equatorial Guinea. These countries account together for 70% of world’s gas proven reserves. Iraq, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Norway, Oman and Peru hold observer status in the organization.—Tass ■

Chinese, American businessmen in Houston emphasize economic cooperation

HOUSTON—Bilateral economic cooperation between the United States and China was emphasized by political and business leaders at a gathering on Friday evening in Houston in the US state of Texas.

More than 300 officials and business executives of Chinese and American companies attended the third annual gala and award ceremony of the China General Chamber of Commerce-Houston (CGCC-Houston). Delivering a speech, Chinese Consul General in Houston Li Qiangmin said China and the United States are going to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. “Facts have proven that cooperation is the best option for both sides, and win-win can lead to a better future,” he said. He also encouraged the Chinese business community in the United States to expand their business and fulfill their social responsibilities. David J Firestein, president and CEO of George HW Bush Foundation for US-China Relations and inaugural executive director of China Public Policy Centre in the University of Texas at Austin, said his organizations want to “advance a constructive vision for the relationship that is focused on action solving real problems.”

“Despite real differences, the United States and China actually do have much in common and much to work on together,” he said, adding the business community in the United States and China are going to lead the way to get US-China relationship “back to where it needs to be for both countries to prosper and benefit from it.” At the gala, PetroChina International (America) Inc won the Outstanding Member Award. Ernst & Yong and Sanhua international Inc shared the Outstanding Community Champion Award, while China Communications Construction (USA) Inc and Satellite Petrochemical USA Corp were named the Most Influential Company of the Year.

Before the gala, “Better Angels”, a documentary produced by American and Chinese filmmakers, was screened. Directed by Oscar-winning director Malcolm Clarke, “Better Angels” features stories of several Chinese and American individuals who it called “accidental diplomats.”—Xinhua ■

China-Viet Nam border fair records 695 mln USD in transactions

KUNMING—The 18th China-Viet Nam Border Trade Fair concluded on Saturday in southwest China’s Yunnan Province with a transaction volume of 695 million US dollars. The 5-day fair, held in China’s border county Hekou, features some 1,220 Chinese and Vietnamese stalls displaying electronics, ceramics, agricultural products, food, garment and furniture, its organizers said. This year’s transaction volume marks an increase of 18.2 per cent over that in 2016, when the fair was also held in Hekou, the organizers said.

The fair has also attracted exhibitors from countries including the Republic of Korea (ROK), Afghanistan, Egypt, Indonesia and Thailand. —Xinhua ■

US stocks close sharply lower amid soft data

NEW YORK—US stocks closed sharply lower on Friday as investors digested a batch of economic data. The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 558.72 points, or 2.24 per cent, to 24,388.95. The S&P 500 fell 62.87 points, or 2.33 per cent, to 2,633.08. The Nasdaq Composite Index fell 219.01 points, or 3.05 per cent, to 6,969.25. US job growth slowed in November amid fears of a possible economic slowdown. Total non-farm payroll employment increased by 155,000 in November, and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 3.7 per cent, the US Labor Department reported on Friday.

Job gains occurred in health care, in manufacturing, and in transportation and warehousing, said the department. Stocks had seen volatile trading during the week as investors grew concerned about the pace of economic development as well as interest rate hikes. The US three-year



Traders work at the New York Stock Exchange in New York, the United States on 7 December, 2018. PHOTO: XINHUA

treasury note yield surpassed its five-year note on Monday. The inverted yield curve caught investors’ attention because historical statistics showed that when

short-term yields trade above longer-term rates a recession could follow.

Anxiety around a potential yield curve inversion sent the

yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note to 2.858 per cent on Friday. The yield was above 3 per cent at the start of the week.—Xinhua ■

Trump picks US Army chief Milley as next Joint Chiefs chairman

WASHINGTON—US President Donald Trump on Saturday named General Mark Milley as the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, replacing Marine General Joseph Dunford.

Trump announced separately that White House chief of staff John Kelly will step down at the end of the year, apparently as part of a shakeup of the administration focusing on the president's 2020 re-election campaign.

Milley's nomination requires Senate confirmation. If confirmed, he would face a host of challenges for the United States such as an increasingly assertive Russia, China's military buildup, as well as North Korea's nuclear and missile programmes.

In a Twitter post, Trump said Dunford will be retiring, and that the date of the transition will be determined.

Milley, who commanded troops during several tours in



US Army Chief of Staff General Mark Milley attends a news conference at the Pentagon on 13 July, 2018. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Iraq and Afghanistan, has served as the US Army's top officer since August 2015.

"I am thankful to both of these incredible men for their service to our Country!" Trump

wrote. Speaking to reporters at the White House, Trump said Kelly "will be leaving at the end of the

year," and that he will announce a successor "over the next day or two."

Nick Ayers, Vice President Mike Pence's chief of staff, is Trump's top choice to replace Kelly, US media reported.

The appointment of a president's chief of staff does not require Senate confirmation.

The personnel announcements came as Trump reshuffles senior administration officials following November's midterm elections in which his Republican Party lost a majority in the House of Representatives.

On Friday, Trump nominated William Barr as the next US attorney general and State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert as the new ambassador to the United Nations.

Both nominees would require Senate confirmation as well—a move that is unlikely to occur until 2019.—Kyodo News ■

Israel says located second 'Hezbollah' tunnel from Lebanon

JERUSALEM—Israel's army said on Saturday it had located another tunnel crossing into its territory from Lebanon, the second such find since launching an operation to expose and destroy alleged Hezbollah "attack tunnels".

"The IDF has located an additional Hezbollah cross-border attack tunnel," spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Jonathan Conricus said, refusing to give details on its precise location or dimensions. "The tunnel crosses into Israel, like the first tunnel it is not yet operational and does not pose an imminent threat to Israeli communities," he said in a briefing with journalists.

On Tuesday, the army launched an operation dubbed "Northern Shield" to destroy tunnels it said were dug under the border by the Shiite militant group Hezbollah, sharing images of one found near the Israeli town of Metula. Conricus said on Saturday that the army had placed explosives in the newly exposed tunnel to prevent its use as a means to infiltrate Israel, but had not yet destroyed it.

He said the Israeli military had issued warnings in Arabic to

residents of southern Lebanon to stay away. Following the army's announcement, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that the operation to track the tunnels "is in its beginning". "We'll continue to act till its completion," he said in a statement. Conricus said the military was aware of a third tunnel leading from south Lebanon into Israel. Despite not having its exact location, he said Israel asked UNIFIL, the UN mission monitoring the border region, to "take action and block the tunnel on the Lebanese side".

The announcement of the new find came after Israeli soldiers on Saturday opened fire at what they perceived to be three "Hezbollah activists" approaching the border near Yiftah, south of Metula, where the army was carrying out engineering work.

Conricus said the army believed the three individuals intended to take sensors the Israeli soldiers had placed in the ground as part of their efforts to uncover tunnels. Lebanon's official NNA news agency said Israeli forces fired shots in the air east of the village of Mays Al-Jabal after they had been surprised because of heavy fog by a routine Lebanese

army patrol.

Also Saturday, the Kremlin said Netanyahu called Russian President Vladimir Putin, whose forces are fighting on the same side as Hezbollah in Syria, to tell him about the tunnel operation.

Putin "stressed the need to ensure stability along the line separating Israel and Lebanon", the Russian embassy in Israel said. Netanyahu's office said he reiterated in the call "Israel's policy to prevent the establishment of an Iranian presence in Syria and to act against Iranian and Hezbollah aggression". Israel has carried out hundreds of air strikes in Syria against what it says are Iranian military targets and deliveries of advanced arms to Hezbollah.

However, a friendly fire incident in Syria in September that led to the downing of a Russian plane by Syrian air defences during an Israeli strike has complicated Israeli operations. Iran-backed Hezbollah is the only group in Lebanon not to have disarmed after the country's 1975-1990 civil war. Israel fought a war against Hezbollah in 2006 that was halted by a UN-brokered truce.—AFP

French PM calls for 'dialogue' after fresh 'yellow vest' protests

PARIS, FRANCE—French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe called on Saturday for fresh dialogue with representatives of the "yellow vest" movement staging protests across France, promising the government would address concerns over rising living costs. "The dialogue has begun and it must continue," Philippe said in a televised statement. "The president will speak, and will propose measures that will feed this dialogue." Interior Minister Christophe Castaner added that 125,000 "yellow vest" protesters had turned out to demonstrate around France on Saturday. Police detained 1,385 of them.—AFP ■

Pilot dies in glider accident in central Spain

MADRID—A pilot died on Saturday in a collision between two gliders in the Fuentemilanos aerodrome, close to the city of Segovia in central Spain, local emergency services reported. The accident happened at 16:20 local time when one glider, which was coming in to land, hit another which was waiting to take off at the end of the runway. It is believed that the first glider suddenly lost altitude in the closing meters of its approach and its wing hit the pilot of the second plane, who was standing outside of his aircraft at the time. Emergency services were quickly on the scene, but the victim, who according to reports was the director of the small aerodrome, was pronounced dead on the scene despite efforts to resuscitate him.—Xinhua ■

Six dead, 14 injured in Philippine traffic accident

MANILA—A truck carrying metal bearings had slammed into vehicles and a bakery in Laguna province south of Manila, leaving at least six people killed and 14 injured, local police said on Sunday. Police said the 10-wheeler truck was going downhill on a highway in the town of Santa Rosa around 11:30 pm. local time on Saturday when it lost control and plowed into the vehicles and crashed into the bakery. According to the police, among the dead were two girls aged one year old and two years old respectively. The victims were either sleeping inside the bakery or walking on the side of the highway, police said. Initial police investigation showed the truck lost its brake, moving too fast in slow traffic. Photos uploaded on Facebook also showed the truck was embedded inside the house and several cars were completely wrecked. Police are now hunting down the truck driver who fled after the accident.—Xinhua ■

Mongolia, DPRK agree to further expand ties



Ri Yong Ho. PHOTO: XINHUA

ULAN BATOR—Mongolian Foreign Minister Damdin Tsogtbaatar and his Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) counterpart, Ri Yong Ho, have agreed to further strengthen bilateral ties between their countries, the Mongolian Foreign Ministry said on Sunday.

Ri arrived in the Mongolian capital of Ulan Bator on Saturday for a two-day visit at the invitation

of the Mongolian foreign minister. The two foreign ministers exchanged views on expanding bilateral cooperation at the regional and international levels and in various sectors such as politics, trade, sports and education, and other issues of mutual concern, the ministry said in a statement.

During the talks, Tsogtbaatar said that all relevant parties should cooperate closely to

realize a completely denuclearized Korean Peninsula and solve any controversial issues in the region through negotiations.

For his part, Ri said that the DPRK adheres to the denuclearization of the peninsula, noting that strengthening mutual trust is now crucial in the region.

Mongolia and the DPRK established diplomatic ties in 1948.—Xinhua ■

Four killed, over 200 displaced as floods, landslides hit Indonesia's East Java

JAKARTA—Four people were killed and as many as 236 villagers were forced to flee home as landslides and floods struck East Java province of western Indonesia, disaster agency official said on Sunday.

The landslides occurred after soils of a hill slid down and hit a house, where the four were staying, situated in Sidomulyo village of Kebonagung sub-district in Pacitan district, said Rahmat Salasa, official of the disaster management and mitigation agency in Pacitan district.

"All the fours, most of them elderly, were dead," he told Xinhua over phone from Pacitan district.

All the corpses have been evacuated, he added.

Heavy downpours have triggered floods in Kebonagung district with the height of up to 50 centimetres, forcing over 200 local villagers to evacuate from home to safer grounds, said Rahmat.

Indonesia has been frequently hit by landslides, floods and flash floods when heavy rains pour down.—xinhua ■

China summons Canada envoy over detained Huawei exec: state media

BEIJING (China)—China on Saturday summoned the Canadian ambassador over the "unconscionable and vile" detention of telecom giant Huawei's chief financial officer in Vancouver, state media reported, in Beijing's latest angry response to the hot-button case.

Meng Wanzhou has been held since 1 December in Canada on an American extradition request and faces US fraud charges related to sanctions-breaking business dealings with Iran.

The 46-year-old executive was arrested in Vancouver while changing planes, ratcheting up tensions between the US and China just as the countries' leaders agreed to a truce in their trade war. In a statement cited by official news agency Xinhua, China's Vice Foreign Minister Le Yucheng said Meng's detention was a "severe violation" of her rights and interests as a Chinese citizen. "Such a move ignores the law and is unreasonable, unconscionable, and vile in nature," the news agency quoted Le as saying in the statement.

Le summoned Canadian ambassador John McCallum in protest and urged Ottawa to release Meng immediately or face "grave consequences that the Canadian side should be held accountable for", Xinhua said.

Meng—the daughter of Huawei founder Ren Zhengfei, a former engineer in China's People's Liberation Army—is set to remain in custody until at least Monday, when a Canadian court is expected to decide on bail.

In a hearing that was adjourned on Friday, Canadian government lawyer John Gibb-Carsley asked for bail to be denied, saying Meng has been accused

of "conspiracy to defraud multiple financial institutions." He said if convicted, she faces more than 30 years in prison. Meng is specifically accused of lying to a US bank, identified by her lawyer as "Hong Kong Bank", about the use of a covert subsidiary to sell to Iran in breach of sanctions.

Extradition treaty

The extradition process could take months, even years, if appeals are made in the case.

Canada has a long-standing extradition treaty with the United States, requiring it to cooperate with US Department of Justice requests to hand over suspects. The offence for which extradition is being sought must also be a crime in Canada, and a Canadian court must decide if there is sufficient evidence to support the extradition.

On Thursday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau defended Canada's arrest of Meng, saying politics played no part in the decision. A spokesman for Canadian Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland told AFP on Saturday that Ottawa had no further comment on the case. Huawei said on Friday that it would "continue to follow the bail hearing", expressing "every confidence that the Canadian and US legal systems will reach the right conclusion". Meng's detention in Canada came on the day of a summit between US President Donald Trump and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping, at which they agreed to a truce in their tit-for-tat tariff battle. The world's top two economies have exchanged steep tariffs on more than \$300 billion in total two-way trade, locking them in a conflict that has begun to eat into profits.—AFP ■

Japan's empress-in-waiting 'insecure' but vows to serve

TOKYO (Japan)—Japan's Crown Princess Masako on Sunday pledged to do her best despite feeling 'insecure' about becoming empress in mere months, in a candid statement released on her 55th birthday.

Emperor Akihito will step down on 30 April, 2019—the first abdication in the Japanese imperial family in more than two centuries. His eldest son and Masako's husband Naruhito will ascend to the throne the next day. "Even though I feel insecure about how helpful I will be when I think about the days ahead... I want to devote myself to the happiness of the people so I

will make an effort to that end," said the crown princess.

The Harvard- and Oxford-educated Masako left a promising career as a diplomat to marry into the imperial family in 1993. She gave birth to Princess Aiko in 2001 but continued to face pressure to produce a son as only male heirs can take the throne under Japanese law. The pressure eased in 2006, however, when her sister-in-law gave birth to Prince Hisahito, now 12.

She has made few public appearance since 2003 and has struggled with adjustment disorder.

In her birthday statement, Masako revealed she was recuperating from a stress-induced illness ahead of the imperial succession.

"I am delighted at the fact that I can perform more duties than before as I have tried to improve my physical condition," she said.

But her doctors warned in a separate statement that it is important for the crown princess to continue treatment as she remains vulnerable to fatigue, especially after a large ceremony or successive duties.—AFP ■



Photo taken on 4 December, 2018 shows Crown Princess Masako and her dog Yuri. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Thousands march for climate in Paris despite 'yellow vest' unrest

PARIS (France)—Up to 25,000 people marched through Paris on Saturday urging greater action on climate change, despite fears that their protest would be scuppered by "yellow vest" demonstrations.

Police estimated the number of green activists heading onto the streets at 17,000 while organisers counted 25,000 urging world governments to better protect the environment. The numbers

were similar to previous climate marches in Paris, despite sporadic violence in the city on Saturday among thousands of "yellow vest" demonstrators who want more help for France's poor. Organizers had to change the route of the climate march, marching instead from Place de la Nation to Place de la République, due to the yellow vest demonstrations, but refused a request by Interior Minister Christophe

Castaner to postpone it.

"It was unthinkable to cancel this march. It's important to talk about problems related to the end of the world as well as the end of the month," Elodie Nace, a spokeswoman for green NGO Alternatiba, told the crowds. Thousands also marched in other French cities, including an estimated 10,000 in Marseille, 3,500 in Montpellier and 3,000 in Lille. The "yellow vest" movement has been



Protestors wearing a yellow vest (gilet jaune), clash with French riot police next to a burning barricade as they protest against rising costs of living they blame on high taxes in Mondeville near Caen, northwestern France on 8 December, 2018. PHOTO: AFP

spurred by anger in small-town and rural France at rising car fuel taxes which were aimed at helping the country transition to a greener economy, but which protesters say hurts the poor.

But green activists at the climate marches urged people to find solutions for both environmental problems and the financial struggles of France's poorest. "Yellow vests, green vests—same

anger," they chanted. Some "yellow vest" activists, clad in their emblematic high-visibility road jackets, joined the Paris march after breaking off from their own demonstration.—AFP ■

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION
ADB Loan 3724 and Grant 0671
CLIMATE-FRIENDLY AGRIBUSINESS VALUE CHAINS SECTOR PROJECT
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

- (1) **Package No. CS-03: International Procurement Specialist**
(2) **Package No. CS-04: International Financial Management Specialist**

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a loan and grant from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Global Agriculture Food Security Program (GAFSP) towards the cost of the Climate-Friendly Agribusiness Value Chains (CFAVC) Sector Project. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MOALI) is the executing agency (EA). To support the EA and implementing agencies during the project start-up period, MOALI is planning to recruit qualified and experienced Start-up Specialists in Procurement and Financial Management.

2. Interested candidates may obtain further information and Terms of Reference (ToR) from office address below during office hours 09:30 to 16:30 hours (Monday through Friday) or through ADB Consulting Opportunities, Consulting Services Recruitment Notices (CSRN)

Start-up Procurement Specialist: https://selfservice.adb.org/OA_HTML/adb/xxcrs/jsp/ADBCsrnFwd.jsp?sel=147936

Start-up Financial Management Specialist:
https://selfservice.adb.org/OA_HTML/adb/xxcrs/jsp/ADBCsrnFwd.jsp?sel=147939

3. The interested candidates are required to register and apply through ADB's Consultant Management System (CMS) at https://uxdmz06.adb.org/OA_HTML/adb/adbpos/jsp/ADBCMSLogin.jsp on or before the deadline of submission of EOI on 15 January 2019.

Further Information: Please contact **U Aye KoKo**, Deputy Director General, DOA & Project Director, CFAVC Sector Project. **Office Address:** Project Management Unit (PMU), Ground Floor, Office No.15, Deputy Director General Office, Department of Agriculture (state and division), MOALI, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, Tel: +95 67 3410411, +959 42 8306725, E-mail: dydgdoa@gmail.com.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION
ADB Loan 3724 and Grant 0671
CLIMATE-FRIENDLY AGRIBUSINESS VALUE CHAINS SECTOR PROJECT
PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Package No. CS-01: Recruitment of Consulting Firm (Project Implementation Consultants)

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a loan and grant from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Global Agriculture Food Security Program (GAFSP) towards the cost of the Climate-Friendly Agribusiness Value Chains (CFAVC) Sector Project. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MOALI) is the executing agency (EA). The Project supports implementing Myanmar's Agriculture Development Strategy, 2018-2023 by boosting competitiveness in value chains for rice, beans, pulses and oilseeds in Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing regions in central dry zone.

2. MOALI is recruiting the Project Implementation Consultants (PIC) to provide management and technical assistance in project implementation, strengthen technical and management capacities of project stakeholders and ensure compliance with ADB loan and grant agreements and government policies.

3. Interested firms may obtain further information from office address below during office hours 09:30 to 16:30 hours (Monday through Friday) and Terms of Reference (ToR) for the respective assignment through ADB Consulting Services Recruitment Notices (CSRN).

4. The interested firms are required to register and apply through ADB's Consultant Management System (CMS) at https://uxdmz06.adb.org/OA_HTML/adb/adbpos/jsp/ADBCMSLogin.jsp on or before the deadline of submission of EOI on 15 January 2019.

Further Information: Please contact **U Aye Ko Ko**, Deputy Director General, DOA & Project Director, CFAVC Sector Project. **Office Address:** Project Management Unit (PMU), Ground Floor, Office No.15, Deputy Director General Office, Department of Agriculture, MOALI, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, Tel: +95 67 3410411, +959 42 8306725, E-mail: dydgdoa@gmail.com.

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V MCC DHAKA VOY. NO. (1817 /1818)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V MCC DHAKA VOY. NO. (1817 /1818) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-12-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)
PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1094 S/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V GSS YANGON VOY. NO. (1094 S/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-12-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA SHIPPING

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V TOVE MAERSK VOY. NO. (1833-1834)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V TOVE MAERSK VOY. NO. (1833-1834) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-12-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)
PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

Giant “Pacman” rock in Japan drawing climbers



Pakkun Iwa (Pacman Rock) in Nobeoka. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

MIYAZAKI (Japan)—A giant rock that resembles video game character Pacman is drawing climbers to a mountain in south-western Japan, with visitors eager to capture images to share on social networks.

A 90-minute hike from the Shishigawa campground in Nobeoka, Miyazaki Prefecture, takes mountain climbers and tourists to “Pakkun Iwa” (Pacman Rock). The boulder, around 7 metres in diameter, lies on a trail leading to the top of 1,277-metre-high Mt Hoko.

The large opening in the lower part of the rock prompts

visitors to strike funny poses, as if they are being devoured like the dots that Pacman eats in the video game. The rock is located in the Sobo-Katamuki-Okue mountain range that was designated as a biosphere reserve by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization last year.

According to Masao Todaka, head of a local environmental conservation group Forest Mantoru Kamishishigawa, images of the boulder have been shared many times on social networking sites such as Instagram since the spring of last year.

The rock’s popularity has

kept the group busy dealing with inquiries about directions, in addition to improving roads and setting up signs.

While welcoming the increasing number of new visitors, Todaka, 64, warns people to properly equip themselves with mountain gear as a river has to be crossed to reach Pacman Rock. “We want you to enjoy yourselves while acting responsibly as mountain climbers,” Todaka said.

The video game became a huge hit in Japan and other countries after its initial release in 1980 by a predecessor of Bandai Namco Holdings Inc.—Kyodo News ■

Richard Gere to star in Apple remake of Israeli series ‘Nevelot’

LOS ANGELES—Veteran actor Richard Gere is in negotiations to star in an untitled Apple drama series.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, the series is based on Israeli show “Nevelot”, and expected to be green lit soon by the tech giant.

If finalised, Gere, 69, will the play the lead in the series.

The story follows two elderly Vietnam veterans and best friends who find their monotonous lives upended when a woman they both loved fifty years ago is killed by a car.

Nevelot was created by Dror Sabo with Daphna Levin and Lee Yardeni. It was based on Yoram Kaniuk’s novel of the



Veteran actor Richard Gere. PHOTO: PTI

same name and produced for the Israeli cable network HOT.

The Apple series would be written by Howard Gordon and he will also executive produce

the project alongside Gere, Warren Leight, Sabo, Yardeni, Avi Nir, Alon Shtruzman, Rachel Kaplan, Peter Traugott, Yoram Mokady, and Mirit Toovi.—PTI ■

Netizens blast Singapore Miss Universe’s Trump-Kim summit gown

SINGAPORE—Singapore’s representative to the upcoming Miss Universe pageant plans to wear a dress depicting a key moment of the US-North Korea summit that Singapore hosted earlier this year, but the design of her gown has raised hackles in the wealthy city-state.

The outfit, which shows two hands draped in the flags of the United States and North Korea locked in warm handshake on an electric blue background lined with iconic tourist attractions in Singapore, has drawn flak on social media since it was unveiled last week. An online petition has been launched to prevent the costume from being paraded by 23-year-old Singaporean model Zahra Khanum as a national costume at the pageant in Bangkok later this month, with many criticizing it as not representative of Singapore besides being ugly, gawdy and poorly designed.

“It would truly be a sad day to have Singapore represented with the American and North Korean flags,” said the petition, which was started by Sandra Galistan, and has attracted more than 1,700 online supporters. “There is nothing about this distasteful costume that truly represents Singapore. It is totally non-representative, inappropriate and ridiculous to say the least.” However, Khanum has defended the costume and was quoted by the state-run Channel News Asia as saying that it is “just a representation of what Singapore stands for, which is world peace, and the fact that Singapore is reaching out to other countries to create positive relationships.” Moe Kasim, 48, the creative director of Moephosis Concepts (Singapore) who designed the costume, was undeterred by the criticism.—Kyodo News ■

Miss Mexico crowned Miss World in Sanya



Vanessa Ponce de Leon of Mexico wins the champion during the Miss World 2018 in Sanya, south China’s Hainan Province on 8 December, 2018. PHOTO: XINHUA

SANYA—Twenty-six-year-old Vanessa Ponce De Leon from Mexico was crowned Miss World after she won the final competition of this year’s beauty pageant of the same title Saturday night in the resort city of Sanya, Hainan Province.

Miss Thailand Nicolene Pichapa Limsnukan finished as the runner-up, and Miss Uganda Quiin Abenakyo ranked the third.

One hundred and eighteen contestants wore their countries’ traditional clothing and waved their national flags on the stage after the award ceremony.

Miss World 2018, the 68th edition of the international beauty pageant, was sponsored by the Sanya municipal government and the New Silk Road Group. This was the eighth time Sanya hosted the contest.—Xinhua ■

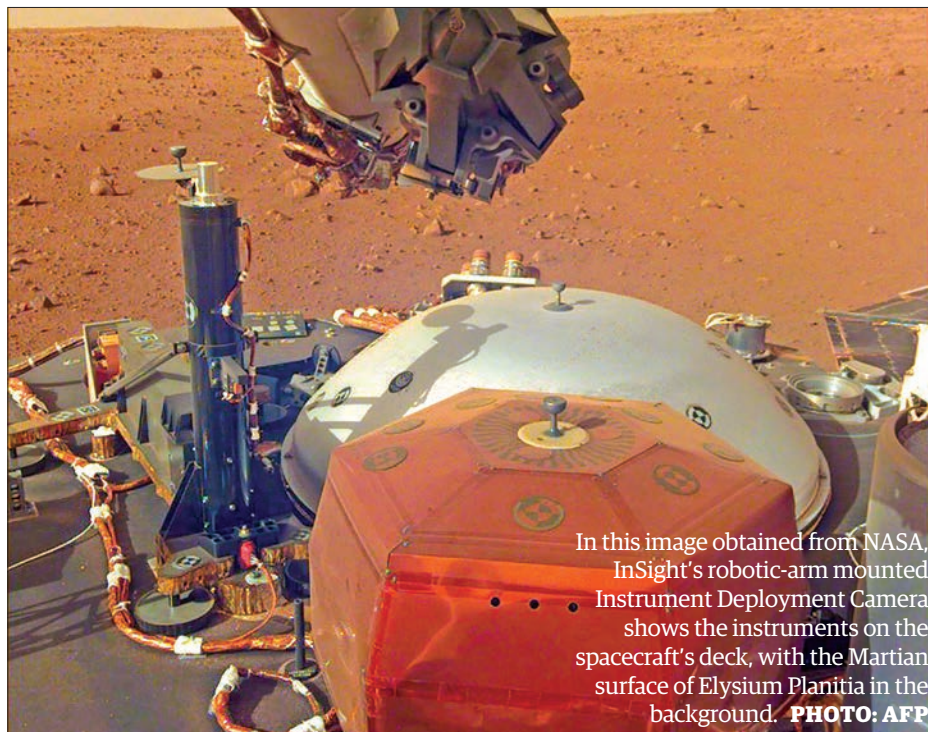


Zahra Khanum shows a dress depicting the US-North Korea summit. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

NASA's InSight lander 'hears' wind on Mars

TAMPA (United States)—Humans can now hear the haunting, low rumble of wind on Mars for the first time, after NASA's InSight lander captured vibrations from the breeze on the Red Planet, the US space agency said on Friday. The strong gusts of wind, blowing between 10 to 15 mph (five to seven metres a second), were captured as they moved over the solar panels on InSight, an unmanned lander that touched down on Earth's dusty, desolate neighbour on 26 November.

Two sensors picked up the vibrations: an air pressure sensor inside the lander and a seismometer on the lander's deck, awaiting to be deployed to the surface by InSight's robotic arm. "This is the very first fifteen minutes of data that have come from the short period seismometer," said Thomas Pike, lead investigator at Imperial College London, during a conference call with reporters. "It's a little like a flag waving in the wind," he added.



In this image obtained from NASA, InSight's robotic-arm mounted Instrument Deployment Camera shows the instruments on the spacecraft's deck, with the Martian surface of Elysium Planitia in the background. PHOTO: AFP

ed. "It really sounds otherworldly, and that is exactly what it is."

InSight is designed to study the interior of Mars like never before, using seismology instruments to detect quakes and a self-hammering mole to measure heat escape from the planet's crust. Sensing the wind, which moved from northwest to southeast at

around 5 pm local time, was "an unplanned treat," said Bruce Banerdt, InSight principal investigator at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. NASA's Viking 1 and 2 landers also picked up signals of the Martian wind when they landed in 1976. They were measuring it at lower sampling rates, however, not frequencies that

would be audible, and did not return sounds that people could listen to. "Personally, listening to the sounds from the pressure sensor, reminds me of sitting outside on a windy summer afternoon, listening to the turbulent gusts come and go and whistle through your ears," said Don Banfield, a researcher at Cornell University. —AFP ■

Acknowledgement

U Maung Thein Khaing (Mrauk/Sittwe)
Retired High School Teacher
Pyithu Hluttaw Representative (Sittwe)
(30-11-2018)

The family members of the late U Maung Thein Khaing would like to offer our heartfelt thanks and great appreciation to the doctors and nurses from Nay Pyi Taw 1000 bedded hospital and Sittwe General Hospital for their kindnesses during his illness; Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Representatives of the Pyithu Hluttaw, Union Information Minister and Madame, all the staff members of the Information Ministry, Speaker and Representatives of Rakhine State Hluttaw, Members of Arakan National Party and friends and students near and far for messages of sympathy and condolences during our time of bereavement. We regret our inability to thank each and everyone individually.

Research shows frequent sauna bathing reduces risk of cardiovascular mortality for elderly

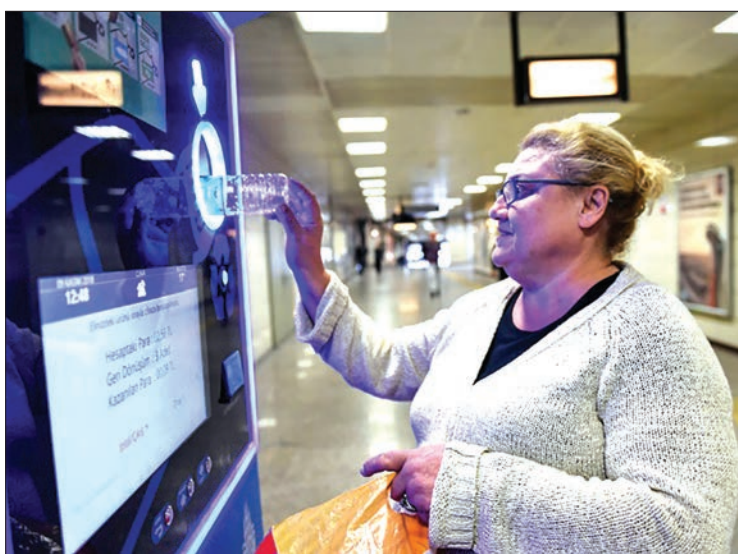
HELSINKI—A study conducted by researchers from the University of Eastern Finland and the University of Jyväskylä has shown that frequent sauna bathing can lower the risk of death from cardiovascular disease (CVD) in middle aged and elderly people. The research, which has recently been published in the open access journal BMC Medicine, found that the mortality from CVD among people taking sauna four to seven times a week is 73 per cent lower than those using sauna once a week, according to the press release issued by the University of Eastern Finland. The findings were based on self-reported questionnaire and death cases from cardiovascular causes recorded in documents of death. A total of 1,688 people living in eastern Finland were involved in the research. —Xinhua ■

Slow recycler Turkey seeks better uses for its trash

ISTANBUL (Turkey)—Turkish woman Tulay Gercek stands in front of a vending machine at a busy Istanbul metro station but instead of putting coins into a slot, she crams plastic bottles into a hole. Every bottle or can Gercek places in the machine gives extra credit on her Istanbul card—the universal ticket for using public transport in the city—in a pilot project by the municipality to promote recycling. "I'm bringing plastic bottles every day," she said at Sishane station, where she had brought a large bag of bottles and cans.

"In the past I used to throw them into the bin. This is a very good project. There should be more," she said. "I believe it will help raise public awareness a little bit." The machines are in place at three metro stations in Turkey's mega city and officials hope to expand to more in the future. It's so far a relatively rare step in a country of over 80 million people with a notoriously bad record on recycling and waste.

Activists say this must change fast and there are signs, albeit tentative, that the authorities are starting to understand the need to



Tulay Gercek puts plastic bottles into a vending machine in Istanbul in a pilot project to promote recycling. PHOTO: AFP

change profligate habits.

'Polluting the soil'

Turkey ranks 108th with a score of 52.96 in the 2018 Environmental Performance Index (EPI), produced by the Yale Centre for Environmental Law and Policy, that analyses the environmental performance of 180 nations. Top of the eco-chart is Switzerland, with a score of 87.42, indicating a strong showing across most issues, especially climate, energy and air pollution.

Oya Guzel, of the Mind Your

Waste (Copune Sahip Cik) foundation, said Turkey was producing around 31 million tonnes of waste annually, out of which 11 per cent was recycled. "We are polluting the soil and the environment with plastics, metals and glass which remain in the natural environment for years," she told AFP. "We have a target of 35 per cent (of all waste to be recycled) by five years from now, which is also low but we believe progress can be made" in that time. She said it was consumers in the end who have to decide what is re-

cyclable. "We could turn it into raw material, or throw away litter and make it trash," Guzel said, urging consumers to give up on disposable materials. "We use a plastic bag for an average time of 12 minutes. It becomes trash 12 minutes later." The Istanbul municipality told AFP that, of the non-recycled waste, 61 per cent was burned to produce electricity and the remaining 28 per cent buried with no use.

End to free bags

Green policies do not appear as yet to be a major vote winner in Turkey but there are signs the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is now paying some attention to the issue. Environment and Urbanisation Minister Murat Kurum said there would be a compulsory charge for plastic bags from January, bringing Turkey into line with other European countries. That would be a revolution in a country which uses plastic bags massively.

Kurum said that every Turkish citizen uses, on average, 440 bags a year, adding the aim was to reduce this to 40 by 2025. —AFP ■

Drinking orange juice reduces dementia risk by almost 50 per cent: study

NEW YORK—Drinking a glass of orange juice daily could significantly reduce one's risk of getting dementia, a new study suggested. The study, published in the journal *Neurology*, tracked nearly 28,000 US men over their consumption of fruit and vegetables from 1986 to 2002 and subjective cognitive function for nearly three decades. The mean age of men when data were first collected was 51 years.

The study found that men who drank a small glass of orange juice were 47 per cent less likely to develop poor thinking skills than those who drank less than one serving per month. It also found that men who ate the most vegetables were 34 per cent less likely to report having experienced a reduction in memory function. "Fruits and vegetables are rich in vitamins and nutrients, including antioxidants, that can help protect the brain," said Hannah Gardener, a researcher at the University of Miami who was not involved in the research, according to the *Daily Mail*. —Xinhua ■



Myanmar Wushu player Aye Thitsar Myint performs in the tournament. PHOTO: SOE NYUNT

Myanmar secures gold medal in Wushu at 19th ASEAN University Games

MYANMAR grabbed the gold medal in the Wushu competition of the 19th ASEAN University Games, held at the Wanna Theikdi in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Myanmar's Aye Thitsar Myint secured the gold medal in the women's Wushu Nandao competition with 9.61 points, while a Malaysian player won

the silver medal with 9.60 points.

Sandi Oo, Hnin Thiri Maung, Saung Hnin Phyu, and Zaw Htet Aung from Myanmar also took part in the competition but did not win medals.

In the Men's Taijijian competition, Myanmar's Nyein Chan Ko Ko secured the first place with 9.62 points, Khant

Min Htet took the second place with 9.61 points, while a Singaporean player stood third with 9.56 points.

In the competition, only one medal will be awarded for Taijiquan and Taijijian tournament. The Men's Taijiquan (Men) competition will be held today.—Nyi M y a t Thawthar ■

Myanmar prepares for U-21 football tournament in Viet Nam

MYANMAR'S national U-21 football team is preparing for an international tournament which will be held in Viet Nam from 12 to 18 December, according to a statement released by the Myanmar Football Federation.

National football teams from Myanmar, Malaysia, Viet Nam, and Gimhae F.C. from the Republic of Korea will compete in the tourney, which will be

held at the Tu Do Stadium in Hue City, Viet Nam.

Myanmar's squad for the tournament has 20 star players, including goalkeeper Bhone Thitsar Min, defenders Aung Wunna Soe, Thet Paing Htwe, and Soe Moe Kyaw, midfielders Pyae Sone Naing and Myat Kaung Khant, and strikers Win Naing Tun and Zin Min Tun.

The Myanmar team will leave for Viet Nam from the

Yangon International Airport on 10 December. They will be accompanied by head coach U Kyi Lwin.

Myanmar will play against Viet Nam on 12 December, Gimhae F.C. on 14 December, and Malaysia on 16 December.

Depending on the points scored, two teams will play the final match and two teams will play for the third place on 18 December.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Thitsar Arman retains top spot in MFF Women's League

THE Thitsar Arman FC is still leading the standing table of the MFF Women's League 2018-2019 season, supervised by the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) and Myanmar Women's League (MWL).

The ISPE, the Sports and Education, and Myawady teams are next in the standing table, with goal differences with the Thitsar Arman.

In earlier matches in the last week of the tourney, the Thitsar Arman trounced the University team 11-0, while the Myawady FC defeated YREO FC by a narrow 1-0 win, the Sports and

Education team beat Gandamar F.C. 2-0, and the ISPE team cut out the Zwekapin FC with a big score of 7-0. The Myanmar Women's League has been a top professional league in Myanmar for women's association football clubs since its establishment in 2016.

Eight teams are participating in the 2018-2019 tourney, including the Sports and Education F.C., the Myawady F.C., the Gandamar F.C., the Zwekapin FC, the YERO F.C., the Thitsar Arman, the University team, and the Institute of Sports and Physical Education F.C.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Liverpool top after Chelsea inflict Man City's first league defeat

LONDON (United Kingdom)—Chelsea inflicted champions Manchester City's first Premier League defeat of the season with a 2-0 win at Stamford Bridge that allowed Liverpool to go top of the table on Saturday. N'Golo Kante and David Luiz were on target for Maurizio Sarri's men as City paid for failing to take advantage of their first-half dominance. "I am very happy with the win because it is not very easy to win against Manchester City or Pep Guardiola," said Chelsea boss Maurizio Sarri. Liverpool now lead City by a point after

However, it was the hosts who enjoyed the better of the second period and sealed a huge victory 12 minutes from time when Luiz's looping header from Hazard's corner dipped in via the crossbar. "It is difficult for us to find motivation but when we are (motivated), we are a very strong team," added Sarri. "Today we played with a very good level of application, determination and the right level of aggressiveness."

Salah back to his best

Salah had been rested from the start for Wednesday's 3-1 win at Burnley that



Chelsea's David Luiz celebrates scoring his side's second goal in a shock 2-0 win over Manchester City. PHOTO: AFP

Mo-hamed

Salah's hat-trick secured an impressive 4-0 win at Bournemouth. City had looked imperious in recent weeks, winning their previous seven Premier League games, and started in the same vein. However, Pep Guardiola's men missed the injured Sergio Aguero upfront as Raheem Sterling and Leroy Sane wasted early chances. "Chelsea are a good team, good players but in the first half it was incredible, we were exceptional," said Guardiola. "In general we were fantastic. I don't have any regrets, we came and showed we wanted to win. "We created chances. They had one in 44 minutes and we conceded a goal, sometimes that happens." Chelsea had barely been in the City half before taking the lead approaching the break, when Eden Hazard teed up Kante to fire into the roof of the net.

Klopp's men on City's coat-tails, and the Egyptian looked to have benefited from a break as he looked more like the player who netted 44 goals in an incredible debut season at Anfield. The visitors were slightly fortunate to take the lead on 25 minutes when Asmir Begovic fumbled Roberto Firmino's long-range shot and Salah's follow-up effort was allowed to stand despite him appearing to be marginally offside. Salah made the game safe by showing determination to stay on his feet despite being fouled before finding the bottom corner early in the second half. Steve Cook's own goal then made it 3-0 before Salah sealed his hat-trick by remaining remarkably cool to dribble past Begovic twice before prodding home.—AFP ■